



March/April 2005

## Environmental Report Another First in South Florida

*'One-stop-shop' for information on greater Everglades ecosystem restoration progress*

The world may be watching Everglades restoration progress, but the Florida Legislature is also watching how that progress is reported to the world. In another first-of-its-kind effort, the South Florida Water Management District, in partnership with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, has published the first comprehensive report on a year's worth of scientific and engineering work in South Florida, covering not only the Everglades but the entire South Florida ecosystem.

The 2005 *South Florida Environmental Report* is the result of a pilot project on report consolidation authorized by

the Florida Legislature in May 2004. It serves as a model for comprehensive environmental reporting by water management districts across the state. The two-volume document contains research summaries, data analyses, financial updates and a searchable database of project details.

Prior to this year, separate documents were required to fulfill the District's many annual reporting responsibilities, as mandated by state and federal laws. The *Everglades Consolidated Report*, an annual District report on Everglades restoration, served as the foundation for this new effort. By consolidating more than 50 reports, the 2005 *South Florida Environmental Report* now comprehensively covers Everglades programs as well as projects on Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries, Florida Bay and Florida Keys, the Kissimmee and Loxahatchee rivers and other waterways.

The goal is to provide legislators and other policymakers – and the public – with centralized, “one-stop-shopping” for information on environmental restoration, management and protection efforts in South Florida.

“Florida continues to make marked progress in restoring America's Everglades, the Kissimmee River and the South Florida ecosystem,” said

*continued inside*



### in this issue...

- ▶ Acceler8 Project Blasts Off
- ▶ Spotlight on Service Centers
- ▶ Tsunami Relief Efforts
- ▶ Day at the District
- ▶ Find Freddy
- ▶ Battle of the Bugs
- ▶ Water Workshops
- ▶ Ask Freddy

South Florida Water Management District  
P.O. Box 24680  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
West Palm Beach, FL  
Permit #22



[sfwmd.gov](http://sfwmd.gov)